cont C1

Figures 3a, b, and c show a typical pattern for the optionally banded three-piece form fitting sleeve member according to the invention, the piece illustrated in Figure 3a being optional. The piece illustrated in Figure 3a can also be used in the pattern of Figures 1a and 1b to provide a top band.

On page 10 delete lines 5-7 (i.e., the paragraph beginning "Figure 7") and insert the following:

C2

Figure 7a shows a side view and Figure 7b shows a front view of an invention cushion liner which has a contoured inner surface providing variable thickness cushioning material at portions of the liner intended to provided particular selective cushioning to the user.

On pages 12 and 13, delete the paragraph beginning on page 12 line 15 and ending on page 13 line 10 and insert the following:

C3

U.S. Applications 08/406,145 and 08/611,305 are incorporated herein by reference. The present invention polymeric gel composition comprises, preferably, a block copolymer and, optionally, mineral oil. The gels of the invention are nonfoamed or foamed with, e.g., a foaming agent. The mineral oil may be present in from 0-95% by weight based on total gel weight, more preferably 70-90% by weight, but also including all of any positive amount including 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, and 90% by weight and all values and ranges in between all these listed values. The invention gel preferably has a durometer (Shore A) of 0 - 20 and preferably a durometer that matches or approximates (±10%) human skin. Preferably, the oil is present on an equal weight basis, or in a weight ratio of 1/4, with regard to the amount of polymeric material present. More preferably, the gel durometer is from 1-100 Shore 00, most preferably 5-35. The polymeric material present

is preferably a styrene isoprene/butadiene block copolymer or styrene-ethylene/butadiene-styrene block copolymer. Preferable examples of such polymeric materials useful herein include C-Flex 1970-W5 (R70-339-000), C-Flex 1960-W5 (both manufactured by Consolidated Polymer Technologies, Largo, Florida, U.S.A.), Kraton G1654 (manufactured by Shell Chemical Co.), Septon 4033, 4044, 4055, 4077, and 4099 (manufactured by Kuraray), DYNAFLEX G6703, G6708, G6713 and G2706 (manufactured by GLS Corp.). For the C-Flex materials a particularly preferred ratio is 1 part oil per 2 parts C-Flex material.

On pages 17 and 18, delete the paragraph beginning on line 1 of page 17 and ending on line 2 of page 18 and insert the following:

As mentioned above, the invention cushion locking liner comprises docking means for attaching an external device, etc. to the liner. Such docking means includes pins, cables, straps, Velcro® (hook and loop type fasteners), snaps, buckles, buttons, etc. and are typically those which help to attach and support a prosthetic device. Some of these docking means are known in the art and are preferably incorporated in the cushion locking liner by means of direct molding, meaning the molding of an adapter into the fabric possibility by injection, compression, etc. molding, etc. using, preferably, urethane such as an 80 Shore A urethane (Smooth-On PMC-780) after the gel is molded to the fabric. See Figure 12. Such docking means, including distal inserts, can be centered or can be offset to accommodate individual residual limb geometries. Other docking means include molding a raised configuration in the side of the liner which then mates with a recess on the inside of the prosthetic socket, allowing for a locking effect when the user dons the liner and steps into a socket, as well as attaching one or more cables, etc., to the liner which are then drawn through the bottom of the socket. The above mentioned raised configuration might be in the form of one or more

bosses (e.g., one on the medial side of socket and/or one on the lateral side of socket) or in the form of an annular ring (see Figures 23 and 24). Such docking means 2 (Figure 12) can also be used to provide additional suspension for a liner by connecting the proximal end of the liner or other cushioning device to a strap, belt, sleeve, etc. which attaches to the body of the wearer. One particular embodiment would be to incorporate the hook or the loop portion of Velcro® directly into the fabric sleeve by sewing or some other means and incorporating a mating piece of hook or loop material into a strap which connects to a waist belt. Such docking means 3 (Figure 12) can also be used to attach pads to parts of the liner or other cushioning device to fill undesirable voids, or to improve comfort, performance, or appearance. For example, a pad could be attached with snaps to a liner in an area where the amputation stump has shrunk. alternatively, the pad could be attached to the side wall of the socket.

On page 26, delete the paragraph being on line 5 and ending on line 9 and insert the following:

The durability and performance of the sleeve can also be enhanced by fixing the sleeve to the prosthetic socket so that the inner cuff covers the top edge of the prosthetic socket and does not move relative to the top edge of the prosthetic socket. This can be done with adhesive, Velcro® (hook and loop type fasteners), rivets, snaps, buttons, screws, or other methods. The preferred place to make the attachment is at the cuff.

On page 27, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 11 and ending at the bottom of the page and insert the following:

Edge treatment providing some type of finish, as illustrated in Figures 16-19, help to

reduce permanent deformation of the sleeve and also help to reduce movement of the sleeve with respect to the wearer's leg. A band of some type of elastic fabric can be sewn to the sleeve edges as illustrated in Figure 16. In Figure 16, the elastic band is illustrated as being attached to an edge of the sleeve by zigzag stitching. In Figure 17, a U-shaped elastic band is illustrated as being positioned over an edge of a sleeve and attached thereto with zigzag stitching. Figure 18 illustrates a sleeve edge finished with an overlock stitch. Figure 19 illustrates a sleeve edge provided with loops adapted to retain a strap made of elastic fabric. An elastic strap of this type can include overlapping ends that are easily adjusted by use of any conventional fastening devices such as Velcro® (hook and loop type fasteners), snap fasteners, buckles, buttons, etc. On the other hand, the amputee need not use the strap at all if he or she feels it is unnecessary. Other forms of edged treatment could be used including any combination of the above listed types.

On page 36, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 14 and ending on line 21 and insert the following:

A preferred embodiment of the invention is a flat sheet of fabric coated, and/or impregnated with thermoplastic, preferably invention gel, and having a strip of fabric on top of the gel. When the fabric (preferably looped nylon) is rectangular and a rectangular strip of fabric is used on top of cushioning material, the resulting flat sheet can be wrapped around the knee or elbow such that the large fabric piece is on the outside, the small piece of fabric is on the inside and against the knee or elbow, and the gel (thermoplastic) cushioning material contacts the leg or arm above the knee or elbow. The sheet can be held in place with, e.g., Velcro® (hook and loop type fasteners).

On page 38, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 18 and ending on line 21 and insert the following:

A Polartec® 2000 stretch laminate fabric having an 85% nylon/15% Lycra® spandex face and a 94% polyester/6% Lycra® spandex back was used to prepare an invention sleeve member using the pattern described in Figure 1. The resultant sleeve member is a form-fitting tubular member for enclosing an amputation stump.

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On pages 40 and 41, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 19 on page 40 and ending on line 2 of page 41 and insert the following:

A rectangular shaped piece of looped nylon is placed in the cavity of a rectangular mold. Molten gel is poured over the looped nylon and a rectangular strip of fabric is placed across the middle third of the rectangular mold. The resulting flat sheet can be wrapped around a knee so that the large piece of fabric is on the outside, the small piece of fabric is against the knee, and gel contacts the leg above and below the knee. The flat sheet can be held in place on the leg with the hook portion of Velcro® (hook and loop type fasteners).

C9

IN THE CLAIMS

Pending claims 16, 17, 23-28, and 30 are reproduced and new claims 31-33 are added below:

16. (Amended) A tube sock-shaped covering for enclosing an amputation stump, said covering having an open end for introduction of said stump and a closed end opposite said open end, said covering comprising elastic fabric, said covering including a front portion, a back portion, and a bottom portion, one or both of said front portion and said bottom portion comprising a higher wear resistant elastic fabric and said remaining portion(s)

C10